01406

1965/02/07

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
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44-42

Diplomatic

Origin FE

ACTION: CIRCULAR - All Posts - Except as indicated below
1442 IMMEDIATE

FEB 7 10 12 AM '65

Info: SS G SP L H AF APA EUR NEA IO P USIA NSC INR CIA NSA DOD NIC AID

INFO: CINCPAC IMMEDIATE

Immediate preceding Cirtel carries text of White House announcement, just released, which, unless you perceive objection, you should bring soonest to attention highest available officials. Say that we hoped to inform them earlier of our actions and background of measures taken but that operational urgencies made this impossible.

The following are basic points which you should, as appropriate, stress in discussion of message:

a. Attacks along with other intelligence indicated clear Hanoi interest to step up attacks on South Vietnamese and U.S. installations.

b. Attacks related directly to continuing and lately increased infiltration from North Viet-Nam.

c. For these reasons GVN requested and we agreed to attack certain military targets directly associated with infiltration.

d. Stress that we seek no wider war but that this lies with the North Vietnamese aggressors.

Drafted by: FE:MGreen:mk 2/7/65

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: FE - Marshall Green

Clearances:

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By MEE, NARS, Date 4/21/78

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e. Note that announcement refers solely to North Vietnamese throughout.

Addressees should report reactions soonest.

BALL.

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